

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03 ACDA-19

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

USIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 NSC-07 SS-20 DODE-00

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DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM:EJSTREATOR/DB

APPROVED BY EUR:AAHARTMAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

S E C R E T STATE 207310

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: FRG REPLY TO CARAMANLIS LETTER

1. FRG EMBASSY MINISTER LAHUSEN PROVIDED TO DEPTOFF TODAY
FOLLOWING GIST OF SCHMIDT'S REPLY OF SEPTEMBER 17 TO
CARAMANLIS LETTER OF AUGUST 28.

2. AFTER THANKING CARAMANLIS FOR HIS LETTER, SCHMIDT
INDICATED HE HAD POSTPONED HIS ANSWER UNTIL HE HAD
OCCASION TO TALK WITH MAVROS DURING THE LATTER'S VISIT
TO BONN. ASSURING THE FRG'S FRIENDSHIP FOR GREECE
AND THE CARAMANLIS GOVERNMENT, SCHMIDT SAID THAT THE
FRG WOULD UNDERTAKE ALL EFFORTS TO HELP GREECE AND THE
GREEK GOVERNMENT IN THE DIFFICULT SITUATION RESULTING
FROM THE UNFORTUNATE EVENTS IN CYPRUS. SCHMIDT SAID
THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REGRETS ESPECIALLY THAT
GREEK GOVERNMENT FELT FORCED TO TAKE GREECE OUT OF
NATO'S INTEGRATED MILITARY ORGANIZATION. HE NOTED
WITH SATISFACTION THAT GREECE WILL REMAIN A MEMBER

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OF THE ALLIANCE AND HOLD TO ITS FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES.

FURTHER, SCHMIDT SAID HE HAD LEARNED FROM CARAMANLIS LETTER THAT GREECE SEES THE EAST-WEST SITUATION AS UNCHANGED. FROM THIS, SCHMIDT SAID HE CONCLUDED THAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT WANTS TO AVOID THE WEAKENING OF NATO'S POSITION ON ITS SOUTHWESTERN FLANK. THEREFORE,

SCHMIDT WELCOMED THE CARAMANLIS PROPOSAL TO DISCUSS WITH THE ALLIES THE PRACTICAL MEASURES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREEK DECISION. SCHMIDT CONCLUDED WITH AN EXPRESSION OF HOPE THAT A THOROUGH, COMMON DISCUSSION OF THE SECURITY SITUATION IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN WILL LEAD TO RESULTS WHICH CORRESPOND TO THE BASIC SECURITY REQUIREMENTS OF THE ALLIANCE AND ITS MEMBERS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP, COLLECTIVE SECURITY, FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE207310
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EJSTREATOR/DB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740263-0870
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740930/aaaaazdi.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 APR 2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <03 JUL 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG REPLY TO CARAMANLIS LETTER
TAGS: PFOR, GR, GE, CY, NATO, (CARAMANLIS)
To: NATO BRUSSELS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005